GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1326
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2001
ADMINISTARIVE EXPENDITURE
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR;V.M. SUDHEERAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to curb administrative expenditure;

(b) if so, the various steps proposed to be taken for that purpose;

(c) whether the Government propose to downsize the posts of IAS, IPS and other Allied Cadres Posts;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether the ministerial staff strength should also be downsized;

(f) if so, the details in this regard;
(g) whether any other reform measures proposed with a view to curb expenditure; and
(h) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) to (h): It is Government`s constant endeavor to contain administrative expenditure and accordingly instructions for austerity in Govt. expenditure are issued from time to time. The Expenditure Reforms Commission has also been set up to, inter-alia, recommend a roadmap for reducing the functions, activities and administrative structure of the Central Government and also to recommend measures for rationalising the staff and cadres of different services covering the Central Ministries, attached offices and institutions. The terms of reference of Expenditure Reforms Commission are as under:

(1) Keeping in view the evolving role of Government, the need to foster convergence and avoiding overlap in the functions of different Central Government Ministries, Departments and attached organisations and the role of the State Governments, suggest a road map for reducing the functions, activities and administrative structure of the Central Government;

(2) Review the framework of all subsidies, both explicit and implicit, examine the economic rationale for their continuance and make recommendations for making subsidies transparent and suggest measures for maximising their impact on the target population at minimum cost;

(3) Review the framework for determination of user charges of Departmental and commercial entities and suggest an effective strategy for cost recovery through user charges;

(4) Review the adequacy of staffing under Central Government Ministries, attached offices and institutions and suggest measures for rationalising the staff and cadres of different services. In this context also review the existing arrangements for re-deployment and re-training of surplus staff to ensure that any additional manpower for new areas of Government activities are met by re-deployment;

(5) Review the procedure for setting up Government funded autonomous institutions and their pattern of funding and suggest measures for effecting improvement and reducing budgetary support for their activities; and

(6) Consider any other relevant issue concerning expenditure management in Government and make suitable recommendations.